education including developmental communication. EDUSAT is specially configured to meet the growing demand for an interative satellite based distance education system for the country through audio-visual medium. The satellite will have multiple regional beams covering different parts of India—five Ku-band transponders with spot beams covering northern, north-eastern, eastern, southern and western regions of the country, a Ku-band transponder with its footprint covering the Indian mainland region and six C-bank transponders with their footprints covering the entrire country. The Ku and C-band transponders have high power to enable small dish antenna use of EDUSAT.

(c) ISRO is providing the space segment for EDUSAT System and demonstrate the efficacy of the satellite system for interactive distance education. Content generation is the responsibility of the user agencies. To help in this, ISRO, in cooperation with the user agencies, has already organised five conferences at regional level and one at the national level to create awareness about the EDUSAT and its capabilities. Another Conference on EDUSAT was organised at Bangalore on July 23, 2004 among the institutions of learning to elicit the views of experts in implementing the EDUSAT system. Presentation on EDUSAT was also made at the conference of the State Education Ministers in Delhi and in the meeting of Education Secretaries in September 2004. Minister of Education and Education Secretaries have been briefed about EDUSAT.

(d) Proposals have been received from different users, which include national level organizations like Consortium for Educational Commmunication (CEC)/University Grants Commission (UGC), Central Institution of Educational Technology (CIET), National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT), Indira Gandhi National Operation University (IGNOU) etc., as well as from regional level universities, state education departments, Indian Institute of Technologies (IITs) and teachers training and research organizations etc. Of these, seven proposals having national reach have been selected so far for utilization in the national beam.

Most Favoured Nation status to India by Pakistan

*34. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of grant of Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to India by Pakistan to help free flow of trade between the two countries;

(b) the details of pre-conditions, if any, Pakistan has attached to the issue; and

(c) the progress made to resolve these issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Pakistan has so far not granted Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to India despite its obligations, including under the WTO, and had cited extraneous political and other reasons for this.

Government have drawn attention to Pakistan's obligation to grant MFN Status to India, and that this step would serve as an indicator of Pakistan's intention to improve bilateral and regional economic cooperation, and to have normal trade and economic relations.

Capacity of Kudankulam Atomic Project

*35. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the generation capacity of Kudankulam Atomic Project as now;

(b) what is the actual generation capacity that was originally estimated;

(c) what is the standard of safety measures adopted at the Atomic Power Plant; and

(d) now after the safety aspects are reviewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Two nuclear power reactors of 1000 MWe each are presently under construction at Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu. These units are scheduled for completion by December 2007 and December 2008 respectively. The generation capacity of the station will be 2000 MWe as originally estimated.

(c) and (d) Standards of safety measures adopted at Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project are better than current international standards. It would also fully comply with the requirements of our Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB). The safety measures adopted in these reactors have evolved over hundreds of reactors-years of experience and these